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ABSTRACT

Alzheimer's disease is characterized by a degeneration and shrinkage of brain tissue; the symptoms include progressive memory loss, bizarre behavior, difficulty in speaking and walking, incontinence, and confusion. Positive diagnosis is possible only upon examination of brain tissue at autopsy. The disease affects not only the patient but also the caregiver, who for the first few years is usually a family member. Witnessing the mental deterioration of a loved one can weigh heavily on the caregiver, who therefore needs support as well. This document presents a bibliography of information on Alzheimer's disease. It includes not only research texts, but also titles to be read by caregivers and family members of Alzheimer's disease patients. Relevant and related subject headings used by the Library of Congress are listed. Bibliographic citations are included under the headings of: (1) Introductory Material; (2) Basic Research Texts; (3) Family Support Texts; (4) Bibliographies; (5) Conference Proceedings; (6) Government Publications; (7) Abstracting and Indexing Services; (8) Journals; (9) Representative Journal Articles; (10) Technical Reports; (11) Selected Technical Reports; and (12) Selected Materials. Names and addresses of organizations to contact for additional information are given. (NB)

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ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE
Compiled by Vivian O. Sammons

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SCOPE: As the incidence of Alzheimer's disease (sometimes called senile dementia of the Alzheimer type, or SDAT) has increased during the last ten or fifteen years, so have the research and the allocation of money to sustain it. The disease is characterized by a degeneration and shrinkage of brain tissue; the symptoms include progressive memory loss, bizarre--even violent--behavior, difficulty in speaking and walking, incontinence, and confusion. Positive diagnosis is possible only upon examination of brain tissue at autopsy. The disease was first described by Alois Alzheimer in 1907, when he discovered abnormalities in the brain of a female patient with a severe presenile dementia who had died at the age of 56. The disease affects not only the patient but also the caregiver, who for the first few years is usually a family member. Witnessing the mental deterioration of a loved one can weigh heavily on the caregiver, who therefore needs support as well. This compilation lists not only research texts but also titles to be read by caregivers and family members. Not intended to be a comprehensive bibliography, this guide is designed--as the name of the series implies--to put the reader "on target."

SUBJECT HEADINGS used by the Library of Congress, under which books can be located in most card, book, and online catalogs, include the following:

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE (Highly relevant)
DEMENTIA, PRESENILE (Highly relevant)+
DEMENTIA, SENILE (Highly relevant)+
PRESENILE DEMENTIA (Highly relevant)
SENILE DEMENTIA (Highly relevant)
BRAIN--AGING (Relevant)
BRAIN--DISEASES--AGE FACTORS (Relevant)
GERIATRIC NEUROLOGY (Related)
MENTAL DISORDERS--IN OLD AGE (Related)

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*Available in the reference collection, Science Reading Room

+National Library of Medicine subject heading that appears on some online records

CG 020987

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ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, Inc.
70 East Lake Street
Suite 600
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Telephone: (312) 853-3060

Geriatric Study and Treatment Program
Department of Psychiatry
New York University Medical Center
Millhauser Laboratories, HN314
550 First Avenue
New York, New York 10016
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Information Office
National Institute on Aging
National Institutes of Health
Bulding 31, Room 5C35
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Office of Scientific and Health Reports
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